This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cardiovascular disease				
Myocardial infarction (MI)	MicroRNA-499 (miR-499)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that increasing miR-499 activity in the heart could improve recovery from MI. In cardiomyocytes, expression of wild-type miR-499 prevented apoptosis compared with expression of mutant miR-499. In a mouse model of ischemic injury, an miR-499 antagomir increased infarct size and abnormal cardiac remodeling, whereas miR-499 overexpression decreased injury. Next steps could include further testing to understand how the pathway causes miR-499-mediated protection from apoptosis.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Wang, J.-X. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online Dec. 26, 2010; doi:10.1038/nm.2282 Contact: Pei-Feng Li, Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China e-mail: peifli@ioz.ac.cn
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